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United States Department of State

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August 5, 1988

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(UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL OF ATTACHMENT)

MEMORANDUM

TO : Members and Observers of the NTISSC

FROM : Robert L. Caffrey *BC*
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Communications

SUBJECT: Department of State Response to
NTISSC 022/88 - "TEMPEST Countermeasures
for Facilities"

The attached message was sent to the NTISSC Chairman on August 5, 1988, expressing State's concern on the TEMPEST problem.

Your comments would be most welcomed.

Attachment:
As stated.

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OC/S: WGFITZPATRICK: DMC
08/05/88 EXT. 647-1223
A/OC: RLCAFFREY

PRIORITY RUETIAA/DIRNSA FORT GEORGE G MEADE MD

FOR NTISSC EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT RALPH MACMILLAN {DDI}

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: ACOA

SUBJECT: NTISSC 022/88 - "TEMPEST COUNTERMEASURES
-- FOR FACILITIES"

CAPTION CONTINUED: FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE DASC
-- ROBERT L. CAFFREY

ALSO FOR NTISSC CHAIRMAN DR. GORDON SMITH

1. SUMMARY: REQUEST IS MADE FOR THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE'S VOTE ON THE SUBJECT POLICY UNTIL SUCH TIME AS A STUDY CAN BE COMPLETED TO SHOW THE EFFECTS THE POLICY'S IMPLEMENTATION WILL HAVE ON BOTTOM-LINE COSTS TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

2. AT THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON 25 MAY, MR. JAMES L. COLLINS, THE BLUE RIBBON PANEL INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE, PRESENTED PROJECTIONS THAT ADDRESSED THE AVERAGE COST RATIOS OF TEMPEST MODEL EQUIPMENT {VERSUS OFF-THE-SHELF} UNDER EXISTING POLICY AND UNDER THE PROPOSED POLICY. HE PROJECTED THAT BY 1992, THE AVERAGE COST RATIO OF TEMPESTED EQUIPMENT WOULD DROP FROM ITS PRESENT 1.8 LEVEL TO THE 1.3 LEVEL {INDEED, SOME EQUIPMENT IS ALREADY AT THE 1.3 LEVEL}. HE ALSO PROJECTED

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A RISE TO THE 3.0 LEVEL, SHOULD THE PROPOSED POLICY BE ADOPTED. IF THESE PROJECTIONS ARE ACCURATE, THE REQUIREMENT FOR TEMPEST EQUIPMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE REDUCED TO FIFTEEN PERCENT OF THE TOTAL EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENT JUST TO ACHIEVE COST PARITY {I.E., BREAK EVEN}. IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE A COST BENEFIT, TEMPEST EQUIPMENT USAGE WOULD HAVE TO DROP BELOW THE FIFTEEN PERCENT LEVEL.

3. UNLESS IT CAN BE ESTABLISHED THAT SECURITY RISK ANALYSIS WILL PERMIT GOVERNMENT-WIDE OPERATION AT OR BELOW THE FIFTEEN PERCENT AVERAGE LEVEL, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICY WILL INCREASE RATHER THAN REDUCE COSTS TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

4. THE PROPOSED POLICY REQUIRES THAT DECISIONS BY MEMBER AGENCIES AND ELEMENTS BE MADE ON THE USE {OR NON-USE} OF TEMPEST EQUIPMENT, BASED ON RISK ANALYSES USING AVAILABLE THREAT AND VULNERABILITY INFORMATION. AFTER RISK DETERMINATION IS MADE, DECISIONS CONCERNING TEMPEST EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT FOLLOW. SUFFICIENT TEMPEST EXPERTISE EXISTS IN THE COMMUNITY {IF NOT IN EACH AGENCY} TO PROCEED WITH THE ANALYSES THAT WOULD BE REQUIRED UNDER THE PROPOSED POLICY.

5. IF STUDIES INDICATE THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF THE POLICY IS APPROPRIATE, THEY WILL HAVE ALSO RENDERED THE REQUIRED TEMPEST PROCUREMENT DECISIONS. THUS, THERE WOULD BE LITTLE OR NO DIFFERENCE IN EFFECT UPON THE EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT TIMEFRAME. IF STUDIES INDICATE THAT THE DESIRED SAVINGS CANNOT BE ACHIEVED, AN EXPENSIVE, DISRUPTIVE ERROR WILL BE AVOIDED.

6. AS PREVIOUSLY STATED IN THE FINAL COMMENTS ON THE POLICY, STATE CANNOT CONCUR UNTIL BENEFIT TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, AS A WHOLE, CAN BE REASONABLY DEMONSTRATED. THEREFORE, IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE COMMITTEE VOTE ON THE POLICY BE HELD IN ABEYANCE UNTIL ITS IMPACT CAN BE ADEQUATELY STUDIED.

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